

Jeypore Ground Gecko

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About:

- The proposal to include the gecko in Appendix II was made by India at the recently-concluded 19th Conference of Parties (COP19) to CITES in Panama City. The proposal was adopted by the members of the Working Group.

CITES Appendix II:

- The animals listed under Appendix II may not necessarily be threatened with extinction, but trade in such species should be controlled to ensure it does not threaten their existence.

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN):

- In 2019, the Jeypore Ground Gecko was assessed for the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s Red List of Threatened Species and **was listed as 'endangered'**.

Distribution:

- This reptile is endemic to India.

- The wild reptile species is found in the **Eastern Ghats and is known to be present in four locations including southern Odisha and northern Andhra Pradesh.**
 - Its occurrence is estimated in less than 5,000 square kilometres of fragmented geographical area.
 - The species resides below rock boulders in high forested hills at an altitude of 1,100-1,400 metres.
 - Habitat loss and degradation, forest fires, tourism, quarrying and mining activity among the reasons for the species' decline.
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Source : [Down To Earth](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/jeypore-ground-gecko/>

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